

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: EGEN EWWT PL
SUBJ: US-POLISH ECONOMIC COUNCIL THIRD SESSION

REF: A. STATE 115254, B. STATE 115285

1. I PLAN TO DELIVER THE FOLLOWING REMARKS AT THE
OPENING MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON MONDAY, MAY 23.
BEGIN TEXT.

A. I AM VERY PLEASED TO ATTEND THIS THIRD MEETING OF THE
US-POLISH ECONOMIC COUNCIL. AS ONE WHO WAS INVOLVED
IN THE BIRTH OF THIS ORGANIZATION AND HAS ATTENDED ITS
OTHER TWO MEETINGS, I AM VERY HAPPY TO SEE THAT IT
CONTINUES TO PROSPER. NEW MEMBERS CONTINUE TO JOIN, OLD
MEMBERS INTENSIFY THEIR INVOLVEMENT, AND NEW INITIATIVES
ARE UNDERTAKEN.

B. TO MARK THIS IMPORTANT OCCASION, PRESIDENT CARTER HAS
SENT YOU A MESSAGE I WOULD NOW LIKE TO READ. (TEXT AS
PER STATE 115254)

C. OUR NEW SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, DR. JUANITA KREPS,
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HAS ALSO SENT YOU A SPECIAL MESSAGE, WHICH I WOULD
LIKE TO READ NOW. (TEXT AS PER STATE 115285)

D. IT IS CLEAR FROM THESE MESSAGES OF PRESIDENT CARTER
AND SECRETARY KREPS THAT, EVEN THOUGH THE LEADERSHIP
OF THE US GOVERNMENT HAS CHANGED SINCE THE LAST
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL, NO CHANGE HAS OCCURRED IN THE

COMMITMENT OF MY GOVERNMENT TO PROMOTE AND EXTEND US-POLISH COMMERCIAL RELATIONS. UNDER THE PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION, US GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WORKED HARD TO HELP MAKE POSSIBLE THE REALIZATION OF THE 1976 GOAL OF \$1 BILLION IN TWO-WAY TRADE. I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH EQUAL ENERGY TO ACHIEVE THE \$2-BILLION GOAL BY 1980.

E. IN HIS SHORT TIME IN OFFICE, PRESIDENT CARTER HAS DEMONSTRATED CLEARLY THAT HE IS FULLY COMMITTED TO A MORE OPEN INTERNATIONAL TRADING SYSTEM. NEEDLESS TO SAY, IMPROVEMENTS IN THE WORLD TRADING SYSTEM WOULD BENEFIT BOTH POLAND AND THE US AND WOULD HELP IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF BILATERAL TRADE GOALS. IN PURSUING THIS MORE OPEN SYSTEM, THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON HAS GIVEN A FRESH IMPETUS TO THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS UNDER WAY IN GENEVA, IN WHICH BOTH POLAND AND THE US ARE PARTICIPATING. AT THE ECONOMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN LONDON EARLIER THIS MONTH, PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE OTHER SIX LEADERS SET A GOAL OF MAKING SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN KEY AREAS OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS DURING 1977.

F. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE STRONG PROTECTIONIST PRESSURES IN THE US AND ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD, PRESIDENT CARTER, IN RECENT DECISIONS ON SHOES, SUGAR, AND OTHER ITEMS, HAS SHOWN CLEARLY THAT HE IS WILLING TO TAKE POLITICALLY UNPOPULAR DECISIONS IN ORDER TO AVOID THE ECONOMICALLY DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES OF A COMPETITION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN PROTECTIONISM AMONG THE MAJOR TRADING COUNTRIES.

G. THE ADMINISTRATION ALSO HAS DEMONSTRATED ITS CLEAR COMMITMENT TO FINDING SOLUTIONS WHICH WILL BRING THE UNSETTLED INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SITUATION UNDER BETTER CONTROL. IMPROVEMENT IN THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SITUATION WILL ALSO GREATLY ASSIST THE FURTHER EXPANSION OF OUR TWO-WAY TRADE.

H. US-POLISH TRADE HAS PROSPERED IN A WORLD BESET BY PROBLEMS OF ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN, GROWING PROTECTIONISM, MONETARY UNCERTAINTY, AND INFLATION. SINCE WE NOW EXPECT THAT SOME OF THESE DISTURBING PROBLEMS WILL BE MOVING TOWARD SOLUTION, WE HAVE ADDITIONAL REASONS TO BE CONFIDENT THAT OUR TWO-WAY TRADE WILL PROSPER EVEN MORE IN THE YEARS AHEAD. END TEXT

2. COMMENT: THE MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY KREPS WILL BE FAVORABLY RECEIVED BY THE

POLISH LEADERSHIP AS WELL AS BY THE BUSINESSMEN OF THE
TWO COUNTRIES. END COMMENT.
DAVIES

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